



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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GETS \$500 FINE, 6 MONTHS JAIL FOR GAME LAW VIOLATION: OTHERS GET STIFF FINES

A fine of \$500 and 6 months in jail was the sentence imposed by Federal Judge Harold Louderback on Silvio L. Pagni, a restaurant owner of Oakland, Calif., who was charged with shooting 17 wild ducks in 1 day, 7 more than the limit permitted by migratory waterfowl hunting regulations, the Fish and Wildlife Service reported to Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes today.

Other stiff sentences were also handed down in northern California and in Virginia recently. Dr. William F. Grigg, of Richmond, Va., was fined \$200 by Federal Judge Robert N. Pollard for shooting 13 wild ducks from a blind in Henrico County after sundown and by aid of bait. He was apprehended by a U. S. game agent and Virginia Game Warden Charles I. Smith.

Four northern Californians paid \$100 each for hunting over a baited pond or aiding and abetting in this misdemeanor.

Pagni was given the maximum sentence that can be imposed for game-law violations. He had been charged with attempting to bribe the arresting officer as well as taking an overlimit of ducks, but upon agreement of counsel and the U. S. attorney, the bribery charges were dropped and Pagni pleaded guilty to the second count, whereupon Judge Louderback imposed the maximum sentence.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney William E. Licking, Pagni had previously been convicted for game-law offenses, paying \$150 in 1932 for killing robins, \$500 in 1939 for possessing 50 wild ducks, and \$350 last November for possessing 33 wild ducks.

In Sonoma County, Calif., State Game Wardens Ed Hughes and J. W. Harbuck aided U. S. game agents in apprehending Louis B. Fillippini, of San Francisco, and Rudy S. Lichtenberg, of Boyes Springs, for hunting over a baited pond. Amos Heiss, keeper of the gun club on which the pond was located, and W. S. Johnston, of Boyes Springs, were charged with aiding and abetting the two hunters. Heiss was charged with placing the bait, and Johnston with instructing the keeper to use the bait.

Judge Louderback fined each of the four defendants \$100 each.

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